

## CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR THE HONORABLE ERIN E. STEWART

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Common Council Approves \$25.8 Million Loan for Water Treatment Facility Upgrades

**NEW BRITAIN**—The Common Council has approved a \$25.8 million authorization that will be used for improvements related to the City's water treatment facility and system.

The loan is being offered by the state of Connecticut Clean Water Fund at a 2 percent fixed interest rate. Approved projects are eligible for up to 35 percent reimbursement.

The approved money will be used for a variety of projects, including:

- A \$2 million replacement for the supervisory control and data acquisition, a computer system for gathering and analyzing real time data. The existing system is out of date and obsolete and getting replacement parts is extremely difficult.
- \$2 million for the "Batterson Park" water main extension. This work will improve the water quality in that area and possibly allow the water department to expand its customer base in Farmington in the Batterson Park area, most of which currently have wells.
- \$18 to \$20 million for repairs to the Whitebridge wellfields and treatment plant backup. Located in Bristol, these 38 wells comprise the upper and lower wellfields. Officials want to create a backup system should the Shuttle Meadow Treatment plant ever to go down.

"These projects will be a great enhancement for our Water Department and ensure that our customers always have access to clean, healthy water," said Ray Esponda, Director of the Water Department. "It is vitally important to protect and expand our assets."

"Our water system is a vital and unique asset to the City. I'm proud that we are making these critical investments in our Water Department," said Mayor Erin Stewart. "The improvements will make us more resilient in the future."

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